

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 31 2006

U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/500,808
Attorney Docket No. 1715861

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF:

KUNIO ISHIZAKI

INTERNATIONAL APP. NO. PCT/JP03/00202

U.S. SERIAL NO.: 10/500,808

FILING DATE: JULY 7, 2004

FOR: STAPLER

EXAMINER: NATHANIEL C. CHUKWURAH

GROUP ART UNIT: 3721

CONFIRMATION NO.: 6995

FILED VIA FACSIMILE TO 571-273-8300

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Greetings:

The following is filed in timely response to the final Office Action mailed on November 1, 2005, wherein the Examiner:

1. Rejected Claims 1-3 and 6 under Section 103(a), as unpatentable over Akizawa, U.S. Patent No. 5,009,355, in view of Scheuten, U.S. Patent No. 5,385,287.

3. Found Claims 4-5 and 7-12 allowable if rewritten to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following amendments and remarks are submitted in response.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

1997798.01.02
1715861

Do not enter
NC
2/15/06